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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Experiments are being conducted at the Chemiewerk Buna, Schkopau (SAG Kautschuk) to determine whether it is possible to weld ferrosilicon sheets onto normal iron or steel castings. The scientist responsible for the experiments is Baumgrass,* of Chemiewerk Buna, Schkopau.
2. The reason for instigating the experiments is that the DDR is extremely short of ferrosilicon metal, and at present must use this material for cylinders employed in chemical processes involving the breaking down of compounds by the action of acids. Ferrosilicon is apparently the only substance which will stand up to the corrosive effects of the chemical reactions.
3. At the moment, the cylinders, which are about 150 cm. in diameter and slightly more than 1 cm. in thickness, are cast completely of ferrosilicon. The only firm producing ferrosilicon in the DDR is Golzern of Gommern.**Hitherto, there have been many breakages in the castings. The ferrosilicon castings are extremely sensitive to rapid changes in temperature and to the action of the atmosphere, which has caused castings of this material to crumble. All this has necessitated a constant replacement of cylinders with a consequent high consumption of the precious ferrosilicon.
4. It is hoped, if the experiments are successful, that it will be possible to weld a thin sheet of ferrosilicon onto the inside of normal steel castings. Up to the present, no substantial progress has been made, and it is anticipated that no results can be expected before some months have elapsed.

* Comment: Baumgrass is considered as one of the potentially best scientists at Buna's disposal in this specialized work.

** Comment: The sentence is submitted as received. Available reference material lists a technical equipment plant in Golzern (N52/E50).

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